United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1340
1 March 1993

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- Co-Chairmen of Yugoslav Conference feel agreement between three Bosnian parties could be concluded soon; urge "leverage by Governments", according to their spokesman.

- Secretary-General sets up Peace-keeping Reserve Fund in amount of $150 million; transfers initial amount of $59 million to Fund.

- Security Council, in Presidential statement on Friday, 26 February, recommends incorporation of humanitarian issues in planning and dispatch of fact-finding missions.

- Calls for increased international cooperation to address worsening of drug trafficking situation, at conclusion of second meeting of European Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies in Vienna.

- Secretary General appoints Major-General Chris Abutu Garuba from Nigeria as Chief Military Observer of United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II).

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The Spokesman for Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the former Yugoslavia, Fred Eckhard, said today that Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen continued to be of the opinion that the three Bosnian parties were close to an agreement on a settlement, and that "with sufficient leverage applied by Governments" the negotiations could be concluded soon.

Speaking to United Nations correspondents today, Mr. Eckhard said it was "frustrating" to see the war going on while one or the other of the parties had been reluctant "to come to the table or to negotiate seriously". He said it was crucial to take full advantage of the presence of all three parties in New York.

Mr. Eckhard's comments came as a new round of talks aimed at securing peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina began this morning at United Nations Headquarters. The Co-Chairmen met with the Bosnian-Serb leader Mr. Karadzic,

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who, upon his arrival yesterday in New York, held talks with Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew, United States' special envoy to the peace talks, and Deputy Foreign Minister Churkin, special envoy of the Russian Federation.

The Co-Chairmen also met this afternoon with the Bosnian-Croat leader, Mate Boban, and were scheduled to hold a meeting with the Croat member of the Bosnian Government this evening. President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia was expected to arrive to New York from Washington D.C. later today, the spokesman said.

In a separate development, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) has expressed concern over the United States' air drops of humanitarian assistance in Eastern Bosnia, calling the operation "risky" and without "the necessary legal authority" under the Security Council.

In a letter to the Council President, dated 24 February, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Yugoslavia, Ilija Djukic, warned that "many unintended incidents might occur, some of which may not be accidential" as a result of the airdrops. He noted that the delivery of aid in the usual way, namely throught the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), "would be much more suitable and greater in size" than the one provided by to provide by airdrops.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has informed the General Assembly that he has established the Peace-keeping Reserve Fund, as requested by the Assembly last December, as a cash-flow mechanism to ensure the rapid response of the United Nations to the needs of peace-keeping operations. The Fund, which is under the Secretary-General's authority, will be in the amount of $150 million once it is fully established.

In a note to the Assembly, dated 24 February, the Secretary-General said an initial amount of $59 million had been transferred to the Fund, of which $42 million came from the special account of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) in Namibia and $17 million from the special account of the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG).

The note pointed out that about $32.9 million from the Fund had been loaned to certain United Nations peace-keeping operations to meet their temporary cash shortages. In addition, with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions under unforeseen and extraordinary expenses, an amount of $9.5 million had been earmarked from the Fund to meet initial costs associated with the United Nations Operations in Mozambique (ONUMOZ). The available balance in the Fund amounted to $16.6 million, the note said.

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The Security Council, in a Presidential statement issued on Friday, 26 February, has stressed the importance of including humanitarian considerations

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in the planning and dispatch of United Nations fact-finding missions to countries in conflict.

The statement, which was issued in connection with the Council's continuing examination of the Secretary-General's report -- "An Agenda for Peace", emphasized the often close relationship between acute needs for humanitarian assistance and threats to international peace and security.

The Council urged that humanitarian indicators be used within the context of early-warning information capacities that were currently being developed by the United Nations. It pointed out that impartial provision of humanitarian assistance could be of critical importance in preventive diplomacy and encouraged member States to provide the relevant information on humanitarian issues.

The Council also expressed concern about the increased deliberate obstruction of humanitarian relief delivery and violence against humanitarian personnel in many parts of the world, in particular in the former Yugoslavia, Iraq and Somalia, where the Council had called for secure access to affected populations.

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Representatives of national drug law enforcement agencies from most European countries, Canada and the United States, along with officials of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and Interpol have called for an intensified cooperation between drug law enforcement agencies worldwide. The call was made at the conclusion of the second meeting of European Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEAs) last week in Vienna.

Speakers referred to the steadily worsening drug trafficking situation and proposed coordination measures such as pooling of resources and setting up of joint databases making intelligence available to law-enforcement agencies.

Participants also called for special assistance for Eastern countries where ongoing economic and political changes were leading to a precarious situation which made them especially vulnerable for illegal trafficking and money laundering. Attention was also drawn to the increased use of technical advancements and modern communications systems by traffickers and the rise of worldwide networks of legitimate trading companies created by trafficking organizations in order to launch their proceeds.

The HONLEA Europe, which is a subsidiary body of the Commission on Narcotics Drugs, held its first meeting in Moscow in November 1990.

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The Security Council has endorsed a proposal by the Secretary General to appoint Major-General Chris Abutu Garuba from Nigeria as Chief Military Observer of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II).

The Secretary-General wrote in a letter to the Council that Mr. Garuba would assume his duties in Luanda as soon as it was clear that conditions exist for UNAVEM II to actively pursue the military aspects of its mandate.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

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2 March 1993

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council invites Secretary-General to make necessary preparations for holding of referendum of self-determination of people of Western Saraha before end of year; asks for proposals concerning present role and strength of United Nations Mission there.

+ As Bosnian peace talks continue at Headquarters, Co-Chairmen deplore reports of heavy fighting in eastern Bosnia and call on those responsible to grant immediate access to international humanitarian organizations.

+ Department of Humanitarian Affairs launches inter-agency appeal for $20 million to alleviate plight of nearly 100,000 people in Georgia affected by internal strife and a declining economy.

+ Charter Committee debates expanding Security Council membership, cooperation with regional organizations and assistance to States affected by application of sanctions.

+ Oscar Camillion, Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cyprus, submits resignation; to return to Argentina as Minister of Defence.

+ Panel to discuss issues of domestic violence and situation of women in former Yugoslavia as part of the observance ceremonies of the International Women's Day.

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The Security Council today urged the two parties concerned in the question of Western Sahara to cooperate with the Secretary-General in his efforts to work out the modalities for the holding of a referendum of self-determination of the people in that Territory before the end of the year, at the latest.

The Council took that action by adopting unanimously a resolution which invited the Secretary-General and his Special Representative for Western Sahara to intensify their efforts, in cooperation with the parties, to resolve

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the issues concerning interpretation and application of the criteria for voter eligibility. It further invited the Secretary-General to make necessary preparations for the referendum and to commence voter registration on a prompt basis, beginning with the updated lists of the 1974 census.

The Council invited the Secretary-General to report to it no later than 31 May on the outcome of his efforts and asked that proposals for the necessary adjustments to the present role and strength of the United Nations Mission for the Referndum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) be included in that report.

In a previous report to the Security Council, dated 26 January, the Secretary-General had requested guidance from the Security Council on "how best to proceed" in pursuance of a solution to the question of Western Sahara. He said it was "regrettable" that the parties -- the Moroccan Government and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Saguia el-Hamra and Rio de Oro (POLISARIO) -- had "failed ... to reach a relatively straightforward compromise" on the holding of a meeting of tribal chiefs at the end of November 1992. The purpose of that meeting, the Secretary-General wrote, went no further than to provide him and his Special Representative with "advice on the procedures for the identification of voters eligible to participate in the referendum".

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Talks aimed at securing peace in the former Yugoslavia continued at Headquarters today with meetings between Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, Co-Chairmen of the International Conference of former Yugoslavia and President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Prime Minister Akmazic and Mate Boban, the Bosnian Croat leader. Mr. Vance, the Secretary-General's Personal Envoy to Yugoslavia, and Lord Owen, the European Community negotiator, were expected to meet with the Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, and his delegation this afternoon.

According to the Co-Chairmen's spokesman, Fred Eckhard, today's discussions focused on "Muslim-Croat relations in light of recent tensions between those two groups" and then moved on to "the peace package, generally, and the question of interim measures" pending the adoption of a constitution, "if and when a peace agreement is signed".

In a related development concerning the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Co-Chairmen today strongly deplored that, even as peace talks were taking place in New York, heavy fighting continued in eastern Bosnia, in particular in Cerska and Srebrenica, resulting in new displacements of innocent civilians caught up in the conflict.

According to a statement issued at Headquarters, a high number of casualties had been reported, especially affecting the beleaguered Muslim population. The Co-Chairmen deplored the fact that, in spite of continuous assurances and recent Security Council statements on the observance of international humanitarian law, safe passage of relief convoys continued to be

rendered impossible. The Co-Chairmen counted on those responsible "to grant immediate access to international humanitarian organizations, in particular so as to render the evacuation of wounded persons possible", the statement concluded.

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The United Nations has launched an inter-agency appeal to the international community for $20 million to cover emergency humanitarian assistance to the people of the Republic of Georgia.

According to the Department of Humanitarian Affairs (UNDHA), which issued the appeal today, nearly 100,000 people, including displaced and returnees, are in urgent need of food and non-food assistance, due to the political and military strife in Georgia.

An inter-agency mission led by the Department visited Georgia from 30 January to 16 February, at the request of the Georgian Government, and concluded that the effects of the internal strife in Abkhazia and South Ossetia, combined with economic decline in Georgia, have been devastating. The Georgian Government had assured the mission that the relief organizations would have unrestricted access to the conflict-affected areas in the country and that "safe passage" would be given to all humanitarian supplies.

According to the appeal, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) will provide health care, nutrition for children and mothers, and social welfare services; the World Food Programme (WFP) will provide food aid as well as emergency logistics assistance; the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) will focus on protection and on non-food assistance; and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) will provide transportation assistance.

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Proposals to expand the membership of the Security Council and to reform its decision-making processes were discussed at the general debate of the 'Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization', held at Headquarters today.

Speakers also called for enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and other regional organizations, and for assistance to third States affected by the application of the Security Council sanctions.

The representative of Brazil, Ronaldo Mota Sardenberg, said the end of the cold war had witnessed a dramatic increase in the activities of the Security Council and that a new reality raised questions about that body's "representative" character. He pointed out that while 180 countries were now represented in the United Nations, the number of seats in the Council had remained unchanged since 1963.

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Ana Mercedes Botero, the representative of Colombia, said the relationship between the General Assembly and the Council should be marked by greater equilibrium and cooperation. A new form of "constitutional control" over the Council might allow for greater cooperation between that body and the Assembly, she added.

The Charter Committee will meet again on Friday, 5 March.

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Oscar Camillion, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Cyprus, has submitted his resignation in order to return to Argentina as that country's Minister of Defence, a United Nations spokesman said today.

The Secretary-General, while accepting the resignation with "regret", has expressed his appreciation for the contributions made by Mr. Camillion with regard to United Nations efforts to resolve the situation in Cyprus.

Mr. Camillion was appointed as Special Representative in October 1987 and took up duties the following February.

A search for his successor would begin immediately, the spokesman said.

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A panel discussing different aspects of violence against women will be held at Headquarters on Thursday, 4 March, as part of the ceremonies observing the International Women's Day.

During the meeting, Roxanna Carillo of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) will, among other speakers from different institutions, recall United Nations efforts to reduce violence against women, including a draft declaration on the subject to be considered by the General Assembly this fall.

Other issues to be discussed include domestic violence, the situation of women in former Yugoslavia whose human rights were seriously violated by rape, as well as forms of violence in Africa and Asia.

International Women's Day was first proclaimed in Denmark in 1910, in observance of 8 March 1857, when women textile workers in New York City took to the streets to claim the right to work and more human working conditions. Since then it has been commemorated annually on 8 March around the world by women's groups, Governments and the United Nations.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

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3 March 1993

WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ President of Bosnia and Herzegovina signs military part of peace agreement put forward by Co-Chairmen of Yugoslav Conference; agreement on matters "relating to Constitution" also reached; talks on other issues to continue at Headquarters.

+ Deputy Foreign Minister of Russian Federation, at press conference at Headquarters, announces setup of peace-keeping mechanisms in territory of former Soviet Union on ad hoc basis.

+ Cease-fire committee, under chairmanship of ONUSOM II and UNITAF, begins process of disarming warring Somali factions.

+ United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia to grant full access to its broadcasting facilities to all political parties to express their ideas "freely and equally".

+ Austria protests continuing blockade of Danube river by barges from Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) resulting in complete halt to navigation and interruption of Danube/Black Sea traffic.

+ Settlement problems are assuming worrisome dimensions in industrialized nations and developing countries, says new Chairman of Preparatory Committee for 1996 United Nations Conference on Human Settlements.

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Following today's meetings on former Yugoslavia, Cyrus Vance, Secretary-General's Special Envoy to Yugoslavia, told correspondents that the President of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Alija Izetbegovic, had signed the military part of the peace agreement for that country put forward by Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen. He also informed correspondents that a major agreement had been reached by the Bosnian Croats and the Bosnian Government "on matters relating to the Constitution". However, he said, the "map issue" was still being considered and further talks were necessary with all parties concerned.

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Also speaking to correspondents, Lord Owen, the European Community negotiator, stressed that while the signing by the Bosnian Government of the military part of the agreement was a major step, the talks would continue on other issues. "One of the hardest tasks is going to be to stitch this country together again and get people who have been fighting in such a vicious way to work together in a government", he said. He expressed the hope, however, that an overall agreement could be reached in the next couple of days.

At a press briefing earlier today, Fred Eckhard, spokesman for the Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on Yugoslavia, recalled that, with the signing today of the military part by the Bosnian Government, all three parties to the conflict had now agreed to two of the three elements of the peace plan -- an important step towards "the ultimate goal of getting a political agrement on which a meaningful cease-fire and a cessation of hostility could be based". The missing piece was the agreement on the map, which would delineate the 10 provinces in Bosnia and Herzegovina. However, Mr. Eckhard cautioned, the military agreement could not be implemented separately, since the three parts of the agreement were interrelated.

Today's agreements followed talks held all day at Headquarters by the two Co-Chairmen, Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance, with the President of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Alija Izetbegovic, his Prime Minister, Mile Akmadzic, and his Foreign Minister; with a delegation led by Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader; and with Mate Boban, the Bosnian Croat leader. The Co-Chairmen also held talks with British Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd.

The Council was holding consultations on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina this evening.

* * *

The Deputy Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation, Sergei Lavrov, announced today that peace-keeping mechanisms in the territory of the former Soviet Union were presently being set up and formed through specific arrangements between the parties concerned on a case-by-case basis.

At a press conference at Headquarter today, Mr. Lavrov said Russia was participating in the efforts to settle all the conflicts in the territory of the former Soviet Union -- Moldova, Georgia, and Tajikistan -- because it wanted to strengthen security in the territory and ensure stability and respect for Human Rights.

There were two types of peace-keeping operations currently carried out in the former Soviet Union, he said. The first was based on ad hoc arrangements between the peace-keeping forces and the conflicting parties. In a number of cases, he said, their mandate provided for possible use of force. To date, such arrangements were in effect in South Ossetia, Trans-Dniester region, Abkhazia, and Tajikistan.

The second type of operation was based on multilateral agreements reached in the context of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), signed by the

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Heads of State of CIS in Kiev last March. This was being set up for the first time in Tajikistan at the request of the Tajik Government.

Mr. Lavrov also stressed his country's willingness to cooperate with the United Nations and the CSCE in peace-keeping, as those two organizations could play an important role in supporting and training peace-keeping contingents in the former Soviet Union.

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Under the chairmanship of the United Nations Operation in Somalia (ONUSOM II) and the United States-led Unified Task Force (UNITAF), a cease-fire committee set up to disarm warring Somali factions has met to review responses from those factions regarding their weapons inventory lists, transition sites for personnel and light weapons and cantonment sites.

According to a United Nations spokesman today, 14 factions took part in the review process and ONUSOM had been given "faction maps" on which to pinpoint the sites where the weapons were stored.

The committee, which was established under the Addis Ababa agreements on Somalia, was expected to hold its next formal meeting around 30 March.

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The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) today launched its programme of granting full access to its broadcasting facilities to all political parties in Cambodia so that they could express their ideas as "freely and equally" as possible, according to Eric Falt, the spokesman for UNTAC.

Under the "equal access, equal time" programme on Radio UNTAC, which would start on 7 April, each political party would be allotted two five-minute slots per week. The parties would be given the choice to pre-record their statement on a tape and deliver it to the division or they could use Radio UNTAC's studio facilities for the recording.

Elections for the constituent assembly are to be held from 23 to 25 May.

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Austria has protested the continuing blockade of the Danube river by barges from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), saying it has resulted in a complete halt to navigation on the Danube and an interruption of the Danube/Black Sea traffic.

In a letter dated 2 March, the Austrian Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Peter Hchenfellner, asked the Council to take necessary measures to remedy the situation as the blockade was causing severe economic damage to Austria and to the other countries on the river.

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He said the international community should not accept the behaviour of a State that "not only does not implement Security Council resolutions, but also tries -- through illegal measures -- actively to defy and frustrate them". S/25351

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Settlement problems were assuming worrisome dimensions in industrialized nations as well as in developing countries, the newly elected Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the 1996 United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) said today.

Addressing the opening of the Committee's organizational session this morning, Robert Lloyd Wenman of Canada stressed that preparations for Habitat II must take into account the human settlements components of "Agenda 21" -- the action programme adopted at the Rio Summit last summer -- and called on Member States to hear the voices of the homeless of the world, the refugees and the displaced persons as well as "people who live in the streets of our own cities".

The conference, which is scheduled to be held from 3 to 14 June 1996 in Turkey, will address human settlements issues in the context of sustainable development and will formulate a global plan of action to improve the living environment of all people.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

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4 March 1993

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council, in Presidential statement last night, condemns continuing military attacks in eastern Bosnia by Serb military units and calls for increased presence of UNPROFOR; demands full engagement by all parties in peace talks in New York.

+ Secretary-General protests letter to "American people" by Radovan Karadzic, Bosnian Serb leader, concerning World Trade Centre explosion in New York; letter retracted by Mr. Karadzic.

+ In message on occasion of International Women's Day, Secretary-General says promotion and protection of rights of women central to the work of the United Nations.

+ Department of Humanitarian Affairs launches appeal for $166.5 million for relief and rehabilitation programme in Somalia for this year.

+ Security Council Sanctions Committee on South Africa asks Swiss Government to take measures to prevent proposed export of 60 Pilatus PC-7 trainer aircraft to South Africa.

+ Palestinian Rights Committee to focus on follow-up to Security Council demand for immediate return of Palestinian deportees.

* * *

The Security Council last night condemned the continuing military attacks in eastern Bosnia by Serb paramilitary units "even as peace talks are continuing in New York", and expressed particular concern over the fall of the town of Cerska and the imminent fall of neighbouring villages. The Council took that action through a statement read out on its behalf by its President, Donald McKinnon, Foreign Minister of New Zealand.

The Council demanded that the killings of innocent civilians and other atrocities stop and reaffirmed that those guilty of war crimes would be held individually responsible by the world community. It also demanded that humanitarian relief operations be given unimpeded access to the besieged

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cities of eastern Bosnia and that the wounded civilians be evacuated. It asked that the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) increase its presence in eastern Bosnia.

The Council also stated that it was ready to meet at any moment to consider further action.

The meeting was held in response to urgent requests from the United States and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The letter from Bosnia stated that the Serbian leadership had issued an order to wipe out or drive out the peoples of Cerska and Srebrenica before American humanitarian airdrops could save them from starvation. Serbian forces had blocked all humanitarian land convoys and, in the last 72 hours, killed 2,000 civilians, the letter said. Thousands of people had been displaced. The new attacks threatened the entire peace process and the efforts of those trying to save the people of eastern Bosnia, the letter concluded.

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A United Nations spokesman said today that Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali had protested a letter written by Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, "to the American people", in which he said "the tragic and deplorable incident at the World Trade Centre is fresh testimony to the extraordinary volatility and immediate dangers of direct foreign involvement" in the conflict in former Yugoslavia. Mr. Karadzic told the Secretary-General during a meeting today that he would retract the statement.

At a press conference at Headquarters this afternoon, Mr. Karadzic, while asking correspondents to ignore his statement, explained he had merely wished to express astonishment that the United States might be exposed to international terrorism.

Mr. Karadzic said he wanted to inform correspondents about fights in eastern Bosnia, where Muslims, for two months, had mounted "a terrible offensive trying to redraw the maps" dividing Bosnia and Herzegovina into ten semi-autonomous provinces, as proposed by the Co-Chairmen of the Yugoslav Conference. Serbs were "under the attack of Muslim forces", he said, and Serbian villages had been burnt down. Mass graves with massacred Serbian civilians had been found, but the international press had ignored those reports, he said.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in his message on the occasion of the International Women's Day on 8 March, has stressed that the promotion and protection of the rights of women are central to the work of the United Nations.

As half of humanity was made up of women, he said, their rights were high on the agenda of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights and of the World Conference on Human Rights, to be held in Vienna in June. The

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international community also looked forward to the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be held in Beijing in 1995.

About 119 countries -- more than two thirds of the current United Nations membership -- had subscribed to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, he noted. The Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, now in draft, was expected to be adopted by the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly.

Mr. Boutros-Ghali called for redoubled efforts within communities and at the grass-roots level, in places of education and employment, to ensure that women were treated fairly and without discrimination. As chief administrative officer of the United Nations, he said he had "responsibility" to ensure that promotion and advancement were open to women.

The Secretary-General also noted that while there had been steady progress in the articulation and implementation of women's rights in many countries, a reversion to barbarism had occured in others. Some countries had seen the use of systematic sexual violence against women as a weapon of war to degrade and humiliate entire populations. "Rape is the most despicable crime against women; mass rape is an abomination", he said.

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The United Nations today launched an appeal to the international community for $166.5 million in humanitarian assistance to cover the relief and rehabilitation programme in Somalia for this year.

At a press conference at Headquarters today, Jan Eliasson, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, said the United Nations was preparing "very intensely" for the next phase of the Somalia operation - first major step towards rebuilding the economic and social fabric of that country. Hopefully by the end of this year, he said, the world would be able to see in Somalia a transition from "relief to rehabilitation and recovery".

The major issues to be addressed were the repatriation of refugees and displaced persons and the rebuilding of the local economy by providing jobs for the many Somalis who were currently unemployed. Moreover, he said, for the programme to succeed, a secure environment throughout Somalia and the continued support of donors were essential.

He pointed out that the United States-led Unified Task Force (UNITAF) operation had been helpful in creating a situation where relief supplies could reach thousands of people. However, he warned, there was still a great need for humanitarian assistance, as nearly two million Somalis continued to be threatened by starvation.

The rehabilitation programme for Somalia would be discussed at a meeting in Addis Ababa from 11 to 13 March with representation from the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), NGO's, as well as the Somali people. A pledging conference has been scheduled on the

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last day of the meeting, which would be followed by a Conference on National Reconciliation beginning on 15 March.

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The Chairman of the Security Council Sanctions Committee on South Africa has asked the Government of Switzerland to take all measures to prevent plans by a Swiss company to export some 60 Pilatus PC-7 trainer aircraft to South Africa.

In a statement issued today following a meeting at Headquarters, the Committee said the sale was "contrary to the spirit and intent" of Security Council resolution 418 (1977) which had established a mandatory arms embargo against South Africa. It further noted that a reply from the Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Observer Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations concerning the proposed sale had not been "satisfactory".

The statement also noted that in resolutions 418 (1977) and 591 (1986), the Council had urged all States "to prohibit the export to South Africa of items which they have reason to believe are destined for military and/or police forces in South Africa; have military capacity and are intended for military purposes."

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The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People has decided to focus on the follow-up to the Security Council's demand late last year that Israel, as occupying Power, ensure the safe and immediate return of some 400 Palestinians deported to southern Lebanon in mid-December.

Approving its work programme for 1993 yesterday, the Committee said priority would also be given to the issues of ending the violations of human rights and the settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and ensuring the safety of Palestinian civilians.

Nasser Al-Kidwa, Observer for Palestine, told the Committee that the primary concern of the Palestinian people regarding the resumption of the peace process remained the question of the Palestinian deportees and their return home.

The Committee has also begun preparations for the North American NGO Symposium on the Question of Palestine and has established standing committees on seven specific issues, including human rights and international humanitarian law, to make the Symposium more productive. The Symposium, scheduled to take place at Headquarters from 30 June to 3 July, has as its theme, "Building for Peace and Palestine: Priorities for the Second Decade of the NGO Movement".

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

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5 March 1993

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Secretary-General presents recommendations to Security Council for establishment of 30,000-member United Nations Operation in Somalia to take over from Unified Task Force on 1 May 1993.

+ Secretary-General appoints Admiral Jonathan T. Howe of United States as his new Special Representative for Somalia for an initial period of three months, effective 9 March 1993.

+ First Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia tells press conference at Headquarters that preliminary agreement has been reached in Rome that could open way for cessation of hostilities in Nagorno-Karabakh.

+ Commission of Experts on war crimes sends reconnaissance mission to former Yugoslavia to further investigate mass killings and destruction of property in Vukovar area, in Croatia; peace talks on former Yugoslavia continue today in New York; additional meetings scheduled for tomorrow.

+ Commission on Human Rights, currently meeting in Geneva, decides to appoint Special Rapporteur on racism and xenophobia; also hears statements on human rights situation in Myanmar, Afghanistan, among other countries.

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Emphasizing that the political will to achieve security, reconciliation and peace "must spring from the Somalis themselves", Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has presented his recommendations to the Security Council for the second part of the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) to take over from the United States-led Unified Task Force (UNITAF) on 1 May 1993.

In his report to the Council, dated 3 March, the Secretary-General says UNOSOM II would require 20,000 military personnel of all ranks, 8,000 logistical support staff, as well as a considerably strengthened civilian staff of some 2,800 people. The mandate of UNOSOM II would confer authority for appropriate action, including enforcement action as necessary, to establish throughout Somalia, a secure environment for humanitarian

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assistance. To that end, the Secretary-General writes, UNOSOM II would seek to complete, through disarmament and reconciliation, the task begun by UNITAF for the restoration of peace and stability. The mandate would also empower UNOSOM II to provide assistance to the Somali people in rebuilding their shattered economy and social and political life.

The Security Council authorized on 3 December Member States to use "all necessary means" to ensure delivery of humanitarian aid in Somalia. Shortly thereafter UNITAF was set up, under the command of the United States military and in cooperation with the United Nations, to disarm the warring factions in its area of operation. The Secretary-General notes in his report that although the Task Force has made an important contribution in that regard, events in Kismayo and Mogadishu during the week of 21 February 1993 have demonstrated the volatility and the uniqueness of the situation in Somalia. There is still no effective functioning Government in the country. There is still no organized civilian police force, and there is still no disciplined national armed force, notes the Secretary-General.

Mr. Boutros-Ghali stresses that the deployment of UNOSOM II would be at his discretion and will not be subject to the agreement of any local faction leaders. It would cover the whole country, including its borders, both for the purpose of controlling the movement of refugees and to prevent arms from flowing into Somalia.

Noting that UNOSOM II would be the first operation of its kind to be authorized by the international community - reflecting its determination "not to remain a silent spectator" to the sufferings of the Somali people - Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali recommends that its cost be considered as an expense of the Organization to be borne by Member States. Furthermore, he says, the United Nations Fund for operation in Somalia, established by the Security Council last year, would be maintained.
S/25354

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In a related development, Secretary-General announced today that he had decided to appoint Admiral Jonathan T. Howe of the United States as his new Special Representative for Somalia for an initial period of three months, effective 9 March 1993.

According to a statement issued by a United Nations spokesman today, Admiral Howe will oversee the transition from the Unified Task Force to UNOSOM II, in addition to continuing the important tasks of "promoting political reconciliation, coordinating humanitarian assistance and paving the way for rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country".

Admiral Howe, retired from the United States Navy, served as Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs from December 1991 to January 1993. He is currently a distinguished visiting professor at the National War College in Washington D.C.

* * *

The First Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia, Jirair Libaridian, told correspondents today at Headquarters that a preliminary agreement had been reached in Rome that could open the way for the cessation of hostilities in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Addressing a press conference, he said the agreement would provide for a group of international observers to monitor the ceasefire in the region and to facilitate the restoration of communications and the removal of obstacles to normal transportation. The monitors would also enable humanitarian assistance to be delivered and create secure conditions to facilitate the return of displaced persons to their homes.

Mr. Libaridian noted this was the first time that all sides involved in the conflict had agreed to a set of principles that could lead to an eventual ceasefire. The Armenian Government welcomed Azerbaijan's new constructive approach and hoped that its commitment to a peaceful, negotiated settlement of the conflict would be a permanent one, he added.

The Deputy Foreign Minister also urged the Security Council to express its strong support for the adoption of this agreement and "to encourage all sides involved to take additional steps to bring about a negotiated settlement to the conflict".

* * *

The Commission of Experts on war crimes has decided to send a reconnaissance mission to the territory of the former Yugoslavia to conduct investigations into mass killings and destruction of property in the Vukovar area, in Croatia. At its fourth session, held in Geneva from 1 to 3 March, the Commission also authorized the reconnaissance team to visit other sites if necessary.

The five-member Commission was set up by the Security Council last year to investigate reports of grave breaches of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and other violations of international humanitarian law in former Yugoslavia.

During its meeting this week, the Commission also discussed the Council's decision last month to ask the Secretary-General to set up an international tribunal for "the prosecution of persons responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law committed in the territory of the former Yugoslavia since 1991". In a previous report to the Secretary-General, the Commission had observed that the establishment of such a tribunal would be "consistent with the direction of its work".

Heading the reconnaissance team would be the Commission's Rapporteur on On-Site Investigations, William J. Fenrick of Canada. The other members are two Canadian officials and two representatives of Physicians for Human Rights

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-- the non-governmental organization entrusted with the investigation of the Ovcara mass grave, near Vukovar.

The Commission will hold its next session in Geneva on 22 and 23 April.

In a related development, the peace talks conducted by the Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on former Yugoslavia, Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, continued today in New York, when they met with representatives of the Bosnian Government, and with leaders of the Bosnian Serb and Bosnian Croat communities.

Additional meetings are scheduled for tomorrow.

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The Commission on Human Rights has decided to appoint for a three-year period a Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia and related intolerance. The Commission, which is currently holding its forty-ninth session in Geneva, took that action on Wednesday by adopting a resolution in which it expressed concern that in many parts of the world, despite all efforts, racism, xenophobia and acts of violence resulting from them persisted.

The text emphasized the obligation of the international community to take urgent national and international measures to eradicate such phenomena. The Commission called on States to complement legislative, administrative and penal measures with economic, social, educational and information measures in their national programmes.

On the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the Special Rapporteur, Yozo Yokota, told the Commission that detentions without minimum guarantees for persons under custody, torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, disappearances and arbitrary executions had allegedly been carried out by the authorities. He said he was prevented from seeing any of the political leaders still under detention, particularly the Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Mrs. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

Felix Ermacora, the Special Rapporteur for Afghanistan, said the conflict had persisted in that country even after the dramatic change in Government in the spring of 1992. The Afghan people who had suffered so much had seen their country being devastated. The complete destruction of the country's economic infrastructure provided a telling picture of the situation, he said.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1345
8 March 1993

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council, urging all Cambodian parties to cooperate fully with UNTAC in preparations for elections in May, calls on UNTAC to continue creation of neutral political environment; demands that all Cambodian parties end violence and intimidation committed on political or ethnic grounds.

+ Secretary-General condemns murders of Israeli civilians in Tel Aviv and Gaza; appeals for restraint in Israel and occupied territories.

+ Lord Owen, Co-Chairman of Yugoslav Conference, briefs European Community Council of Foreign Ministers in Brussels on developments in Bosnian peace talks; President Izetbegovic to return to New York for resumed negotiations later this week.

+ Total of 154 hectares of tropical forest disappeared in 1980s, while forest resources of industrialized countries continue to increase, according to FAO survey

+ Human Rights Commission, currently in session in Geneva, establishes Working Group on Right to Development.

* * *

The Security Council, urging all Cambodian parties to cooperate fully with the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) in view of the elections scheduled for 23 to 25 May, today called on UNTAC to continue in its efforts to create and maintain a neutral political environment conducive to the elections. It also asked the Secretary General to inform the Council before 15 May of the conditions and preparations for the elections.

The Council took that action by adopting unanimously resolution 810 (1993), by which it further demanded that all Cambodian parties take necessary measures to end acts of violence, threats and intimidation committed on political or ethnic grounds and urged cooperation of the parties with the

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For information media--not an official record

UNTAC Special Prosecutor's Office in the investigations of such acts. It also demanded that all parties take all action necessary to safeguard the lives and the security of UNTAC personnel throughout Cambodia.

Recognizing that the Cambodians themselves were responsible for the implementation of the Paris Agreements of 1991 and the future stability and well-being of their country, the Council demanded that all parties honour in full their obligations to desist from all offensive military activity.

The Council further asked the Secretary-General to report to the Council in the context of his fourth progress report in April 1993 on the implementation of the present resolution and on any further measures that may be necessary and appropriate to ensure the realization of the fundamental objectives of the Paris Agreements.

In a previous report to the Security Council, dated 13 February, the Secretary-General had said that although UNTAC continued to encounter "serious problems" in its effort to prepare Cambodia for free and fair elections, some progress had been made. He had proposed that the Council issue a broadening of its demand for compliance with the Paris Agreements, since the response of some of the Cambodian parties to resolution 792 (1992) had "not been satisfactory".

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has expressed deep concern over the recent upsurge in violence in Israel and the occupied territories and condemned the murders of Israeli civilians in Tel Aviv and Gaza, according to a statement issued at Headquarters today.

In a renewed appeal for "restraint by all sides in Israel and the occupied territories", the Secretary-General warned that acts of violence -- whether by Israelis or Palestinians -- only serve to undermine the confidence and trust required by the peace process.

The Secretary-General also firmly rejected allegations in the Israeli media that the United Nations was "less concerned" over violence against Jews than against peoples of other faiths or ethnic backgrounds. He opposed "all acts of violence", the statement noted.

In a related development, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) has strongly refuted allegations that an Agency official failed to come to the aid of an Israeli citizen who had ventured beyond the Israeli Defence Force (IDF) checkpoint in Rafah on Saturday, 6 March.

Expressing "grave concern" about the allegations, the Agency explained in a press release issued over the weekend, that the UNRWA official - who happened to witness an Israeli-licensed car crashed into a wall and surrounded by a large group of people - had been prevented by the crowd to get close to the scene. Subsequently, she rushed to UNRWA installation to raise alarm over

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the phone. Unable to do so, she rushed back to the scene to try and help. A few minutes later, the Israeli military arrived and took control, the statement said.

The following evening, UNRWA officials explained these facts to the Civil Administration, the statement concluded.

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The Spokesman for the Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on former Yugoslavia, Fred Eckhard, told correspondents today that Lord Owen, the European Community negotiator, had briefed the European Community Council of Foreign Ministers in Brussels today on the latest developments in the Bosnian peace talks. During the meeting, the Ministers restated "their solid support for the Co-Chairmen's peace plan", according to Lord Owen.

The other Co-Chairman, Cyrus Vance, was in New York today, where he was to meet with the contact group of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sadako Ogata.

The spokesman also said that the three parties to the Bosnia talks had all left New York over the weekend. On Saturday, President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia and Herzegovina issued a statement at Headquarters, saying that after various consultations in Sarajevo he would return to New York later this week "with the intention of moving the discussion forward to a successful conclusion". Mr. Eckhard said the Co-Chairmen hoped President Izetbegovic would be in a position to sign the map arrangement upon his return to New York.

Meanwhile, the Prime Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mile Akmadzic, has contended that the mandate of Alija Izetbegovic as President of Bosnia and Herzegovina had expired on 20 December 1992, and that he was therefore without constitutional authority to act in that capacity. In addition, the position of Haris Silajdzic, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, "does not present fully" that of the Government, the Bosnian Prime Minister said.

The statement was contained in a letter to the Secretary-General, dated 1 March, in which Mr. Akmadzic also noted that the Presidency, and not the President alone, was the representative body of Bosnia and Herzegovina. While the Government as a whole supported the Vance/Owen peace process, he said, there was no single position of the Government on the current stage of the talks, as each of the three negotiating parties -- Croats, Muslims and Serbs -- had their own position on the current proposal.

In a related development, the Deputy Vice President of the Croatian Parliament Dr.Domljan told correspondents today at Headquarters that neither the Parliament nor the public opinion in Croatia were satisfied with what the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) had done until now. He said that

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refugees had "not come back to their homes or villages and the Serb rebels are not disarmed". People were being expelled, even killed, even though UNPROFOR was present in the territory trying to control the situation, he said.

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A total of 154 million hectares of tropical forest have been lost between 1981 and 1990, continuing an increased pace of deforestation over the last 40 years, according to the latest Forest Resources Assessment of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) issued in Rome today. By contrast, FAO reported, forest resources of industrialized countries continued to expand with gains higher than increased harvesting.

The FAO survey, which uses high resolution satellite data, shows than deforestation increased sharply in Asia and to a lesser extent in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. FAO attributed the loss of tropical forest mainly to population growth, rural poverty, and the resulting need to clear land for agriculture.

According to FAO Director-General Edouard Saouma, the population growth in the developing world will continue to put considerable strain on the world's natural resources in general and on forest resources in particular. He said the continued loss of tropical forest underscored the need for better land use planning and more sustainable use of forest resources.

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The Commission on Human Rights, currently in session in Geneva, has established a 15-member Working Group to study problems of economic development. Over the next three years, the new panel will also study the obstacles to implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development. The Working Group is expected to submit a report on the subject at next year's session of the Commission.

The Commission took that action last week by adopting a resolution which stated, in part, that "the biggest obstacles to the realization of the right to development lay at the international macroeconomic level as reflected in the widening gap between the North and the South, the rich and the poor".

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

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DH/1346
9 March 1993

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Cyrus Vance, Co-Chairman of International Conference on former Yugoslavia, announces this evening meeting with Serbian President Milosevic in Paris on Thursday; to return on Friday to New York for talks with Bosnian President Izetbegovic.

+ Secretary-General tells resumed session of First Committee that end of bipolarity has not diminished need for disarmament; calls for measures to reassure States that feel threatened in order to avoid "new arms race".

+ Melissa F. Wells of United States appointed as Under-Secretary-General of Administration and Management, effective 5 April.

+ Secretary-General welcomes signing of Afghan Peace Accord in Islamabad; expresses hope for establishment of Government and peace necessary for reconstruction of "devastated" country.

+ Violation of human rights is principal source of refugee phenomenon, Secretary-General tells round table on refugees; calls on States to draw up just and equitable procedures for granting of refugee status.

+ Fifth Committee considers appropriation of $140 million for United Nations Operation in Mozambique for period 15 October to 30 June 1993.

+ European Community tells Charter Committee that efforts of regional organizations should be coordinated with those of United Nations.

+ World Food Programme (WFP) provides emergency food aid to refugees fleeing civil unrest in Chad into neighbouring Central African Republic.

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For information media--not an official record

Cyrus Vance, Co-Chairman of the International Conference on former Yugoslavia, told correspondents this evening that he would be meeting with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic in Paris on Thursday, 11 March, at Mr. Vance's request and at the invitation of French President François Mitterrand.

"We think the time has come to get more pressure put on the Serbs to move", said Mr. Vance shortly after briefing members of the Security Council. He pointed out that the Croatian side had moved on all three components of the overall peace agreement, while the Muslims had agreed to two of them.

Mr. Vance confirmed that he would return to New York on Friday, 12 March, to hold further talks with Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic at Headquarters.

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Measures to reassure States which feel that their security is threatened were necessary if "a new spiral of the arms race" was to be avoided, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today told the General Assembly's First Committee (Political and Security). He addressed the Committee as it reconvened to reassess the existing multilateral arms control and disarmament machinery and consider his report entitled "New dimensions of arms regulation and disarmament in the post-cold-war era".

The end of bipolarity had not diminished the need for disarmament, Secretary-General said. The number of armed conflicts around the world was increasing and the process of arms limitation and disarmament must embrace both the acquisition and the use of weapons.

He warned that there was a growing concern over the dangers of nuclear proliferation. Tensions were also escalating in regions where large numbers of weapons had been left over from the cold war. The elimination of such weapons was a major part of the work of the United Nations in post-conflict peace-building in such countries as Cambodia and Somalia, the Secretary-General said.

Among the areas demanding priority attention from the United Nations were continuing negotiations on multilateral and bilateral agreements and treaties on disarmament; the involvement of regional organizations in confidence-building; mechanism to monitor trends in military procurement and spending; and implementation of a more integrated approach to disarmament.

The Secretary-General added that he was currently considering a proposal to relocate units of the Office for Disarmament to Geneva as a means to improve the efficiency of the United Nations disarmament machinery.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has appointed Melissa F. Wells of the United States as Under-Secretary-General of Administration and Management, effective 5 April. She will be replacing Richard Thornburgh.

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Mrs. Wells has been the Ambassador of the United States to a number of African States, including Mozambique, Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde.

From 1979 to 1981, she served the United Nations as Special Representative to the Secretary-General for Relief Operations in Europe.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today welcomed the signing of the Afghan Peace Accord in Islamabad on Sunday, 7 March, and expressed the hope that it would pave the way for the establishment of a representative government and ensure peace necessary for the reconstruction of the "devastated" country.

In a statement issued by his Spokesman, he further expressed the hope that the cease-fire would improve the security situation and permit the unhindered delivery of humanitarian assistance to those in need.

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The violation of human rights was the principal source of the refugee phenomenon, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today told the opening of a two-day round table on the question of refugees at Headquarters. Besides political reasons, he said, there were also economic and social causes, linked with poverty, malnutrition and underdevelopment, that propelled individuals to cross the borders of their country of origin.

The Secretary-General recalled that there were currently some 18 million refugees worldwide; moreover, he said, there were more than 24 million persons displaced within their own countries.

Emphasizing that the concept of solidarity should concern States first of all, Mr. Boutros-Ghali said that those States who had not done so must be persuaded to accede to the international conventions and all other States must be encouraged to comply with the conventions more rigorously. The General Assembly had included "the flow of refugees" among the causes of concern which may warrant humanitarian emergency assistance, he added.

He pointed out that States must be persuaded to refrain from taking steps which may jeopardize the very principle of asylum, particularly by sending back or expelling refugees or those seeking asylum. The refugee question was one of the spheres of action of preventive diplomacy to which he was particularly dedicated, recalled Mr. Boutros-Ghali. Furthermore, he added, the use of initiatives aimed at averting the causes that produced the flows of refugees must be increased.

He stressed that the world Organization must bear in mind that refugees should be able to benefit from the best possible conditions for repatriation or, failing that, the best possible conditions for resettlement. Solidarity also concerned the non-governmental organizations which were dedicated to the advancement of the individual and respect for human rights, he added.

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The round table on refugees is being held under the auspices of the Observer Mission of the Holy See and the Path to Peace Foundation.

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A lump sum of $140 million for the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ) would be allocated by the General Assembly to cover the period from 15 October 1992 to 30 June 1993, according to a recommendation by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ). The recommendation differs from that of the Secretary-General, which would appropriate some $264 million for the period from 15 October 1992 to 31 October 1993.

The new proposal represents an ad hoc arrangement, in view of expected revisions in the timetable of the operational plan. It also takes into account changes in the implementation of aspects of the Mozambique General Peace Agreement, signed last October between the Government and the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO).

At a meeting of the Fifth Committee, which has resumed its session to consider the proposal, the representative of Mozambique, Pedro Commissario Afonso, appealed for the operation's full and immediate deployment. Although the cease-fire had been holding for almost six months without a meaningful United Nations field presence, he said, the spirit of goodwill should not now be undermined by inaction on the part of the international community.

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The efforts of regional organizations should be coordinated with those of the United Nations, the representative of Denmark told the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization yesterday.

Speaking on behalf of the 12-member States of the European Community, Bent Haakonsen, the Danish Permanent Representative to the United Nations, said that such cooperation should respond to threats to international peace and security without rigid formulations. He added that flexibility was needed to adapt to the particular needs of each situation.

The representative of Japan, Hidehiko Hamada, told the Committee that while the recent successes of the United Nations had been remarkable, it was urgent that the way in which the Organization functioned be improved. Japan had repeatedly stated that serious consideration should be given to the membership and composition of the Security Council. It was important that the Charter Committee engage in a frank exchange of views.

The representative of China, Zhang Kening, pointed out that the role of regional organizations in the maintenance of world peace and security touched upon State sovereignty and was constrained by Charter provisions and by the statutes of those organizations. Emphasis should be placed on coordination between regional bodies and the Council, he suggested.

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The representative of the United Kingdom, Michael Wood, said the Security Council was acting promptly and any review of its membership should not be allowed to undermine its efforts. Regarding the problems of third States affected by Security Council sanctions, there was no "magic solution" and a "trust fund" was not the answer, he said.

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The World Food Programme (WFP) has announced that it will provide 510 metric tons of emergency relief food to 10,000 refugees who have fled civil unrest in Chad into neighbouring Central African Republic. The refugees, including 3,000 children, will receive enough food aid to cover their needs for three months.

Thousands of Chadians, mainly from Gore district, fled at the end of January into neighboring Central African Republic in search of a safe haven. The WFP hopes the situation in Chad will stabilize in the next three months to allow repatriation of the refugees.

Meanwhile, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Government of the Central African Republic are rehabilitating a camp where all the refugees will be transferred. The site offers agricultural land which can be cultivated by the refugees and which provides a basic infrastructure.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

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10 March 1993

WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Leaders of the two communities in Cyprus accept invitation by Secretary-General to come to New York for one-day joint meeting on 30 March to discuss preparation for resumption of substantive, direct negotiations.

+ Secretary-General appeals to kidnappers of United Nations military observer in Angola to release him "unconditionally and without further delay".

+ Special Representative of Secretary-General for Cambodia, in statement to Supreme National Council, reports recent decline in military fighting; calls for creation of neutral political environment in preparation for May elections.

+ Secretary-General reiterates the principle of sovereignty of Kuwait; urges Iraq to respect Emirate's "independence, territorial integrity and international legitimacy".

+ Prime Minister of Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) says presence of UNPROFOR in United Nations protected areas is "essential factor" for reaching political solution to conflict in former Yugoslavia; urges UNPROFOR to stay beyond end of mandate, 31 March.

+ United Nations University publishes book on legal aspects of environmental change.

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The leaders of the two communities in Cyprus have accepted an invitation by Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali to come to United Nations Headquarters in New York for a one-day joint meeting on 30 March to discuss the timing, modalities and preparation for the resumption of substantive, direct negotiations.

According to a statement issued by the spokesman for United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) today, the invitation was handed over

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to the leaders of the Greek Cypriots and the Turkish Cypriots by the Secretary-General's representatives for Cyprus during separate meetings on 8 and 9 March.

The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cyprus is Oscar Camillion. The Alternate Special Representative is Gustave Feissel.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today appealed for the "unconditional and immediate" release of Captain Fayez H.A. Shdaifat of Jordan, a military observer serving with the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II), who was kidnapped on 23 February while on duty in Cabinda.

According to a statement issued at Headquarters, Captain Shdaifat has still not been released despite persistent efforts by UNAVEM II. A group, which has admitted responsibility for the abduction, claims it is holding Captain Shdaifat. Contacts are under way in Kinshasa to obtain his release.

A United Nations spokesman said today that the Security Council would meet in consultations tomorrow to hear an oral report by the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Angola, Margaret Anstee, on the situation in that country. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sadako Ogata, is also expected to brief the Council on matters relating to the question of human rights and refugees.

* * *

Although military fighting in Cambodia had decreased recently, much remained to be done with regard to the creation of a neutral political environment in preparation for the elections scheduled from 23 to 25 May, Yasushi Akashi, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for that country, told the Cambodian Supreme National Council at its meeting yesterday in Phnom Penh.

In his statement to the Council, Mr. Akashi stressed the importance of a political environment in which "clashes" between the 20 Cambodian parties were confined to "ideas and words". Physical violence should have no place at all in a civilized political campaign, he said.

Mr. Akashi went on to say that considerable restrictions on freedom of expression and on freedom of movement remained in many areas of Cambodia. He informed the Council of his proposal to the Human Rights Commission in Geneva that a Special Rapporteur be appointed to monitor the human rights situation in Cambodia, and to the United Nations Centre for Human Rights that it assume an operational presence in Cambodia later this year.

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At a press conference in Phnom Penh following the meeting, Mr. Akashi said he had also discussed with the Council a list of activities forbidden during the campaign, which will begin on 7 April, including public opinion polls.

On the question of preservation of natural resources of Cambodia, Mr. Akashi said he had proposed 30 per cent reduction in the volume of sawn timber as compared to 1991 -- a proposal which two of the Cambodian parties had accepted. On the exploitation and export of minerals and gems, the Council had adopted a global moratorium with emphasis on commercial companies using large equipment.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali met yesterday with the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations, Mohammad A. Abulhasan, who delivered a message from the Emir of Kuwait regarding recent articles in the Iraqi press, in which Iraq repeats its claim over Kuwait.

According to a United Nations spokesman, the Secretary-General told Mr. Abulhasan that "the United Nations position was clear", as could be seen in the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. Kuwait was a sovereign member State of the United Nations, and "Iraq should respect the independence, territorial integrity and international legitimacy of Kuwait", the spokesman said.

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The Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Yugolsavia (Serbia and Montenegro), Radoje Kontic, has said that the presence of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in the United Nations Protected Areas in Croatia was "an essential factor" for the reaching of a political solution to the Yugoslav conflict.

In a letter to the Secretary-General, dated 8 March, Mr. Kontic said there was "no doubt" that keeping peace and security in the Protected Areas "directly" contributed to the Geneva and New York negotiating processes. He reiterated his request that the UNPROFOR mandate be extended "even after 31 March", saying he agreed with the Secretary-General's assessment of the situation in his recent report that the withdrawal of UNPROFOR would "almost certainly result in the resumption of large-scale hostilities in the areas where they are deployed".
S/25382

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The United Nations University (UNU) has announced the publication of a new study entitled "Environmental Change and International Law: New Challenges and Dimensions".

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The book, edited by Edith Brown Weiss, Professor of Law at Georgetown University and UNU research scholar, focusses on new directions in international environmental law and, to a lesser extent, in international institutions. Nine other UNU scholars from around the world have contributed to the research study with essays on the growing common interest in the environment; the scientific uncertainty about the environment; the relevance of human rights; and the relationship between economic development and environmental protection.

Among the scholars are well known international experts such as Peter Thacher, a former Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Senior Advisor to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) and Paul Szasz, the former Deputy Legal Counsel of the United Nations.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

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11 March 1993

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ "Steady deterioration" of situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, according to Sadako Ogata, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; says that "in absence of peace, international relief effort can not be sustained for long".

+ Some 34 Vietnamese settlers are killed and 29 injured in armed attack in Cambodia; Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cambodia says local authorities must bring to justice guilty parties.

+ Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, opening third coordination meeting on Somalia in Addis Ababa, calls for $166.5 million in assistance to fund 1993 rehabilitation programme for Somalia

+ Government of Rwanda and Rwandese Patriotic Front agree on cease-fire, effective 9 March, and on resumption of peace talks.

+ Fifth Committee approves $140 million for United Nations Operation in Mozambique for period ending 30 June.

+ World Food Programme to expand its current relief operation in southern Nepal to feed 85,000 refugees from Bhutan for period of six months.

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Sadako Ogata, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), today told the Security Council that the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina was steadily deteriorating and that in the absence of peace, international relief effort could "not be sustained for long, at least not in its present form".

Mrs. Ogata, who made her statement to the Council behind closed doors, said that 2.28 million people, or half of the original population in Bosnia and Herzegovina, were at present beneficiaries of humanitarian assistance from the UNHCR. That was more than two thirds of those having remained inside the country, she said. The number of people receiving assistance in the whole of

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For information media—not an official record

former Yugoslavia was now 3.8 million, up from 500,000 in December 1991, when UNCHR began operating in the region.

Mrs. Ogata told Council members that her biggest concern remained humanitarian access to the victims, especially to the Government-held enclaves in eastern Bosnia where access had in many instances been denied altogether. During the past few weeks only half of the targeted 8,000 tonnes per week of humanitarian supplies had been delivered, symbolizing the increasing use of prohibition of relief as a weapon of war and "ethnic cleansing". She welcomed the American air drops which were relieving the suffering in the eastern part of Bosnia. However, she said, that type of assistance could not become a substitute for access by land.

Mrs. Ogata said the enormous suffering and devastation in the former Yugoslavia underscored the critical importance of an immediate cessation of hostilities. Although a prolonged emergency situation could be expected, she asked the Security Council to reaffirm the right of return for refugees and displaced persons, not only to their country but also to their places of residence, once the conflict has ended.

In a related development, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali met this morning with an emissary from Pope John Paul II, who handed over to the Secretary-General a letter from the Pope.

According to a United Nations spokesman, the letter expressed the concern of the Pontiff for the tragedy afflicting the people in Bosnia and Herzegovina and appealed to the United Nations to do its utmost to find a peaceful settlement to the conflict.

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Some 34 Vietnamese settlers were killed and 29 others injured when an unidentified armed group attacked a floating village with AK-47 rifles in Cambodia, last night, according to the spokesman for the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), Eric Falt.

The group had entered five different houseboats in the fishing village located just south of the provincial capital of Siem Reap and shot the people living there. Three of the injured were Cambodians, the spokesman said, while all the other dead and injured were Vietnamese-speaking men, women and children, who were living in four different houseboats.

The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, in a statement called the act "appalling" and said it was the latest in a series of bloody and murderous assaults by bands of armed men against unarmed civilians, often in their sleep UNTAC would "strongly" press the local authorities to track down the perpetrators and to bring the guilty parties to justice. In that regard, UNTAC would assist the authorities, he added.

(more)

Mr. Akashi said UNTAC would continue its efforts to establish the facts of foreign presence in the country. The distinction between the foreign forces, as provided for in the Paris Agreements, and foreign residents and immigrants, was clear, he said. It was also obvious that people born in Cambodia of foreign descent fell into a separate category.

* * *

Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Jan Eliasson, opening the third coordination meeting on humanitarian assistance to Somalia in Addis Ababa today, has called for $166.5 million in assistance for Somalia to fund projects put together by different United Nations agencies.

According to a United Nations spokesman today, the three major areas for which funding is sought are: the rebuilding of key Somali institutions and civil administration, promotion of livestock and agricultural output and the reintegration of nearly a quarter of the Somali population who have become refugees abroad.

Meanwhile, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sadako Ogata, told the Security Council today that a "semblance of normalcy" was beginning to return to the city of Bardera in Somalia, but the "encouraging signs" were offset by new disturbances in Mogadishu and Kismayo.

The "physical and material security" would be a crucial element in the return of some 300,000 of the more than one million Somali refugees who had fled to Kenya and other countries neighbouring Somalia, she said. Some 35,000 refugees had already returned from Kenya to Ethiopia since the UNHCR began its repatriation programme about two months ago.

She also noted that the return of Somali refugees could accelerate in about 3 to 6 months, provided adequate security arrangements existed on the Kenya-Somalia border and in Somalia.

With regard to the situation in Togo, Mrs. Ogata said recent developments there had caused an exodus of more than 200,000 refugees into neighbouring Bénin and Ghana, with the influx continuing at a daily rate of 1,000 persons.

The Security Council also heard a briefing by Margaret Anstee, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Angola, on the situation in that country and on the mandate of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II).

* * *

The Government of Rwanda and the Rwandese Patriotic Front, at a high-level meeting in Dar-es-Salaam, have agreed to a cease-fire, effective 9 March, and on the resumption of the peace talks. The two parties met from 5 to 7 March under the auspices of the Prime Minister and First Vice-President of Tansania and adopted a joint declaration reaffirming their commitment to a negotiated settlement within the framework of the Arusha negotiations.

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In a joint communiqué, submitted to the Secretary-General by the Permanent Mission of Rwanda to the United Nations, the parties said they had agreed that foreign troops shall withdraw and be replaced by a neutral international force under the auspices of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

The resumption of the Arusha negotiations on the outstanding issues will take place on 15 March and are expected to be completed within three weeks, when a Peace Agreement would be signed.

Meanwhile, addressing the Human Rights Commission in Geneva on Monday 8 March, the Minister for Primary and Secondary Education of Rwanda, Agatha Uwilingiyimana, said the international community must respond urgently to widespread fighting, human rights abuses, and the basic needs of over 1 million displaced persons in Rwanda. She charged that reactionary forces had interfered with the agreement reached by the two parties, adding that Rwanda's only hope was to reach a political settlement through democratic means.

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The Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) has asked the General Assembly to appropriate $140 million for the financing of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ), for the period from 15 October 1992 to 30 June 1993. That amount also includes an earlier commitment authorization of $9.5 million.

Under the draft text adopted by the Committee yesterday, the Assembly would further request that the Secretary-General submit a report by 1 July on revised and detailed cost estimates for the Operation for its entire mandate period, which ends on 31 October, 1993.

The Committee also discussed the question of providing commitment authorizations for the continued maintenance of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II) and the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) from 1 March 1993.

The Committee will meet again tomorrow to take action on draft resolutions concerning the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL) and the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA).

* * *

The World Food Programme (WFP) announced today in Rome that it would expand its current relief operation in southern Nepal to feed 85,000 refugees from Bhutan for a period of six months.

The aid will consist of 8,000 tonnes of basic foods to cover the needs of the refugees from April to September and of a contribution to a supplementary feeding programme for about 16,000 children under the age of six.

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By January 1993, the number of Bhutanese fleeing civil unrest in their country had reached 77,000 and, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), refugees continue to arrive in Nepal at a rate of 3,000 per month. Their number might increase up to 110,000 by the end of 1993, the WFP said.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1349
12 March 1993

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council unanimously condemns persistent violations by UNITA of Peace Accords; urges UNITA to accept "unreservedly" results of last September elections; invites Secretary-General to organize high-level meeting between the parties "in good time" before 30 April 1993.

+ In second meeting tonight, Security Council calls on Government of Rwanda and Rwandanese Patriotic Front to respect cease-fire, effective 9 March; invites Secretary-General to examine deployment of United Nations observers along border between Uganda and Rwanda, and to consider possible establishment of international force under the aegis of Organization of African Unity and the United Nations.

+ Bosnian peace talks scheduled to resume in New York early next week with participation of President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia Herzegovina, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and Bosnian Croat leader Mate Boban, according to Co-Chairmen of Yugoslav Conference.

+ Democratic People's Republic of Korea decides to withdraw from Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty; assures that its policy of using nuclear energy for "peaceful" purposes is unchanged.

+ Augosto Ramírez Ocampo of Colombia appointed Secretary-General's Special Representative for El Salvador and Chief of Mission of ONUSAL, effective 1 April.

+ Human Rights Commission appoints special rapporteurs to investigate human rights violations in Sudan and Equatorial Guinea.

* * *

The Security Council has condemned the persistent violations by UNITA of the major provisions of the "Acordos de Paz", in particular the continued rejection by that party of the results of the elections held on 29 and 30 September 1992 - deemed as "generally free and fair" - and has stronly demanded that UNITA accept "unreservedly" these results.

(more)

For information media--not an official record

The Council took this action this evening by unanimously adopting resolution 811 (1993), which also demands that the two parties, particularly UNITA, produce early evidence, not later than 30 March, that real progress had been made towards the implementation of the "Acordos de Paz". The resolution also strongly demands an immediate cease-fire throughout the country, and the resumption "without delay and without preconditions" of a continued and meaningful dialogue under United Nations auspices. The Council also reaffirms that it will hold responsible any party that refuses to take part in such a dialogue, "thereby jeopardizing the entire process", and will consider "all appropriate measures" under the United Nations Charter to advance the implementation of the Peace Accords.

The Council has also invited the Secretary-General to seek to organize a meeting between the Government of Angola and UNITA at the "highest possible level", with the view to securing the full implementation of the "Acordos de Paz". The meeting, which should take "in good time" before 30 April 1993, is to consider also the future role of the United Nations in Angola, says the resolution.

The Council has also condemned verbal and physical attacks against the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and UNAVEM II personnel in Angola, and demanded that these attacks cease forthwith.

Before and after the vote, the members of the Council paid tribute to the work accomplished by Margaret Anstee, Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Angola, "under very difficult conditions", and asked the parties, in particular UNITA, to resume immediately their efforts to reach a peaceful settlement to the conflict in that country.

The current mandate of UNAVEM II in Angola expires on 30 April 1993.

* * *

In a second meeting this evening, the Security Council called upon the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandanese Patriotic Front (RPF) to respect the cease-fire, which took effect on 9 March, in order to allow for delivery of humanitarian supplies and the return of displaced persons. It also invited the Secretary-General to examine a request by Rwanda for the deployment of United Nations observers along the border between Uganda and Rwanda in consultation with the Organization of African Unity (OAU), and to consider the possible establishment of an international force under the aegis of the OAU and the United Nations, entrusted inter alia with the protection of, and humanitarian assistance to, the civilian population.

The Council took that action by adopting resolution 812 (1993) unanimously, by which it called upon the two parties to fulfil the obligations they have accepted in the Arusha Agreements and to implement the commitments that they agreed on in Dar-es-Salaam on 7 March concerning the cease-fire and displaced persons.

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Under the resolution, the Council also urged the Government of Rwanda and the RPF to resume the negotiations on 15 March, as agreed, in order to resolve the pending questions with a view to signing a peace agreement at the beginning of April 1993 "at the latest".

Tonight's action was taken following an oral report by the good will mission sent to Rwanda and Uganda by the Secretary General earlier this month.

* * *

The two Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on former Yugoslavia, Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, said today that they expected the talks on a peace plan for Bosnia and Herzegovina to resume at Headquarters early next week, "hopefully on Tuesday", 16 March, with the participation of President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and Bosnian Croat leader Mate Boban.

Earlier today, the spokesman for the Co-Chairmen, Fred Eckhard, told correspondents that the peace talks on Bosnia and Herzegovina were "running out of time", since the mandate of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) was expiring at the end of the month. He informed correspondents that Deputy Co-Chairman Herbert Okun would travel to Geneva over the weekend where the negotiations on the United Nations Protected Areas, including the Serb-controlled Krajina, were expected to resume on Monday, 15 March, with representatives of the Croatian Government and the Krajina Serbs.

The two Co-Chairmen were back in New York today following yesterday's meeting in Paris with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic. During that meeting, held under the auspices of French President François Mitterrand, Mr. Milosevic pledged to use his influence to bring the Bosnian peace talks and the negotiations on Krajina to a successful conclusion.

* * *

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has announced its decision to withdraw "unavoidably" from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT), stating that it was no longer able to fulfil its "obligations" under the treaty and also as a measure to defend its "supreme" interests.

In a press statement issued today, the Government of the People's Republic described that its withdrawal was a "well-justified and self-defensive" measure against the "nuclear war manoeuvres of the United States and the unjust act of some officials of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)" against the country.

It also noted that the Government's policy of using nuclear energy for "peaceful purposes" remained unchanged and that its people would continue to make every effort to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear weapon-free zone.

The Republic of Korea, in a statement, warned that Pyongyang Government's decision not only posed a grave threat to the stability of the Korean Peninsula but also to the peace and security of the world.

It may be recalled that the IAEA, last month, had called upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respond urgently to its request for access to additional information and to two additional sites in the country. The Democratic People's Republic had also been asked to clarify the reasons for inconsistencies that had emerged from IAEA analysis of nuclear samples and measurements.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has appointed Augosto Ramírez Ocampo of Colombia as his Special Representative for El Salvador and Chief of Mission of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL), effective 1 April. He will have the rank of Under-Secretary-General.

Mr. Ramírez Ocampo, former Minister for Foreign Affairs of Colombia, has previously served the United Nations as Assistant Administrator and Regional Director in the Latin American and Caribbean Bureau of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). He has also been the Secretary-General's Special Representative for the Special Plan for Economic Cooperation in Central America.

* * *

Concerned over violations of human rights in the Sudan, the Commission on Human Rights has decided to appoint a special rapporteur to investigate the situation in that country. The decision was contained in a resolution adopted in Geneva earlier this week, in which the Comission called on all parties concerned to permit international agencies, humanitarian organizations and donor Governments to deliver humanitarian assistance to the civilian population in the Sudan.

Among other action, the Commission decided to appoint a special rapporteur to make a study of the violation of human rights in Equatorial Guinea. It also deplored the continuing serious violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Zaire and noted with indignation that force was used systematically to prevent and suppress peaceful gatherings and demonstrations.

The Human Rights Commission was scheduled to end its forty-ninth session today.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1350
15 March 1993

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Commission on Truth issues report placing responsibility for violations of human rights in El Salvador between 1980 and 1991; Secretary-General, at ceremony at Headquarters, says United Nations task in El Salvador "is far from over".

+ Costs for enlargement of UNOSOM II estimated at about $1.5 billion, according to report by Secretary-General; meanwhile, at Conference on National Reconciliation in Somalia in Addis Ababa, United Nations appeals to Somali leaders to make peace and work towards rebuilding "shattered" country.

+ Report by Secretary-General on Bosnian peace talks says it is "crucial" that Bosnian Government and Bosnian Serbs sign provincial map, so that implementation of peace plan can begin.

+ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to begin voluntary repatriation of 1.3 million Mozambicans next month.

+ In message to International Congress on Education for Human Rights, Secretary-General says education and public information are indispensable elements in efforts to protect human rights.

+ Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands agree to conclude framework treaty governing all aspects of their relations, affected by "Bougainville crisis".

* * *

The Commission on the Truth, set up to investigate acts of violence committed by both sides during 12 years of conflict in El Salvador, has issued a report which places responsibility for the worst and most widespread violations of human rights in that country between 1980 and July 1991.

The report names the institutions and individuals whom it found responsible in the cases it studied. Among its conclusions, the three-member Commission found that in November 1989, several members of the Salvadoran

(more)

For information media—not an official record

Army's high command ordered the murder of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her young daughter. The Commission calls for the immediate dismissal and permanent banning from military and security duties of Defence Minister, General Rene Emilio Ponce, as well as of other prominent members of the Salvadoran Army. It also presents wide-ranging recommendations aimed at removing human rights violators from public offices, reforming the justice system and the Armed Forces, as well as promoting human rights, democracy, the rule of law and national reconciliation.

The Commission also found the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberacion Nacional (FMLN) responsible for having committed "grave acts of violence", including the assassination of seven civilian mayors. The Commission received more than 800 denunciations of grave violations by the FMLN, including nearly 400 killings and over 300 disappearances. It calls on the FMLN to renounce permanently all forms of violence in the pursuit of political ends.

The Truth Commission is composed of three international notables selected by former United Nations Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar: former President of Colombia, Belisario Betancur, former Foreign Minister of Venezuela, Reinaldo Figueredo Planchart, and Professor of Law, George Washington University, Thomas Buergenthal. The mandate of the Commission included recommending the legal, political and administrative measures to heal the Salvadoran society.

At a ceremony at Headquarters this morning, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said the implementation of the El Salvador Peace Accords stood out as a shining example of the many challenges facing the United Nations. However, he said, the task was far from over. With the cease-fire process over and the armed conflict at an end, "El Salvador now faces the enormous challenge of reunification of the Salvadoran society", he said.

Introducing the report of the Truth Commission, former President of Colombia, Belisario Betancour, told correspondents that violence was a flame which had ravaged the roots of El Salvador. It reached the cities, the families, the sacred homes and educational centres and had affected justice and the public administration. "Violence turned everything into destruction and death", he said.

* * *

The costs for the deployment and enlargement of the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) for a 12-month period would amount to approximately $1.5 billion, according to Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

According to an addendum to his report proposing the deployment of a 30,000-member United Nations operation in Somalia, the estimate does not include any "unencumbered" balance of appropriations that may exist from UNOSOM - which is estimated at some $70 million "at this time". The report

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also points out that the costs should continue to be considered as an expense of the Organization to be borne by Member States, if the Council agrees to the proposal.

Meanwhile, at the opening of the Conference on National Reconciliation in Somalia in Addis Ababa today, the United Nations and other international bodies appealed to the Somali political leaders to make peace and work towards rebuilding their "shattered" country.

The Secretary-General's Deputy Special Representative for Somalia, Lansana Kouyate, told the Conference in a statement that without effective disarmament in Somalia, all efforts at national reconciliation, relief operations as well as rehabilitation and reconstruction would "remain in jeopardy".

At this session, he said, efforts would be made to remove all obstacles towards rebuilding regional and national institutions and also to make a collective commitment to support the rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes.
S/25354/Add.1

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has said that "after six months of intensive negotiations", under the Chairmanship of Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, it was now "crucial" that the Bosnian Government and the Bosnian Serbs agree to and sign the provincial map as quickly as possible, so that implementation of the plan might begin.

In his report to the Security Council, dated 12 March, the Secretary-General said agreement on the peace plan and its "rapid and robust implementation" offered the best prospect for improving the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The report also noted that agreement had been reached between the three Bosnian parties to establish an International Human Rights Monitoring Mission to be headed by an Interim Human Rights Commissioner for Bosnia and Herzegovina, based in Sarajevo. The Commissioner would be supported by international human rights monitors, deployed throughout the country and particularly in areas affected by "ethnic cleansing".

The Bosnian peace talks are scheduled to resume at Headquarters later this week, with the participation of Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and the Bosnian Croat leader Mate Boban.
S/25403

* * *

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Government of Mozambique have announced the voluntary repatriation of 1.3 million Mozambican refugees beginning next month.

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According to a press release issued today, the operation would be the "biggest ever undertaken by the UNHCR" with more than half a million Mozambicans expected to return this year. The programme is estimated to cost $30 million for transportation and re-integration of the refugees. The agency is expected to launch an appeal in April for donations to cover the operation which will take at least three years.

The signing of a peace agreement in Rome last October by the Government of Mozambique and the Mozambique National Resistence Movement (RENAMO) to end the country's 16-year civil war paved the way for the repatriation operation. The United Nations is currently deploying military observers in the country to monitor and verify the peace agreement and to assist the country in holding free and fair elections in September. The UNHCR noted that since the signing of the agreement more than 100,000 Mozambican refugees had gone home on their own.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in his message to the International Congress on Education for Human Rights and Democracy, said that human rights education and public information were an indispensable element in efforts to protect human rights. The Congress, which was held in Montreal last week, was organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Centre for Human Rights.

In his message delivered by Joseph V. Reed, his Special Representative for Public Affairs, the Secretary-General said that a crucial element in the success of any plan or programme for human rights education would be the commitment of Governments to provide, nationally and internationally, the required resources.

He added that the tasks before the Congress were of the highest importance as they undoubtedly would shape education for human rights well into the next century.

At a certain level of specialization relating to human rights and the administration of justice, the Secretary-General added, standard teaching materials could be prepared based on international standards.

Mr. Boutros-Ghali went on to say that the international community should support the national activities by encouraging the ratification of international instruments and by providing policy support to human rights education and public information. During 1994, he added, an international assessment could be carried out which would review the effectiveness of existing international education and public information activities.

* * *

Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands have agreed to conclude a framework treaty governing all aspects of their relations, affected by the "Bougainville crisis". The island of Bougainville shares common geographic,

cultural and ethnic traits with Solomon Islands, but was separated in 1899 from those Islands and became a part of Papua New Guinea.

According to a joint statement issued last month, following talks between the Foreign Ministers of the two countries, both sides have confirmed the need for a bilateral treaty for joint border surveillance and administration between them. The statement was contained in a letter to the Secretary-General signed by both countries' Permanent Representatives to the United Nations.

The new development follows a protest lodged last year by the Solomon Islands concerning "acts of aggression" committed by the armed forces of the Government of Papua New Guinea against its territory.
S/25394

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1351
16 March 1993

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ United Nations confirms reports of use of aircraft to bomb targets in Bosnia and Herzegovina for the first time since "no fly-zone" was instituted by Security Council last October; aircraft not identified.

+ Admiral Jonathan Howe, Secretary-General's Special Representative for Somalia, to participate in Conference on National Reconciliation in Somalia in Addis Ababa on Thursday.

+ Secretary-General's Special Representative for Haiti, Dante Caputo, to begin open-ended visit to Haiti this weekend; head of United Nations component of international mission in Haiti, at press conference at Headquarters, says Mission has reduced tensions in areas of its deployment.

+ Secretary-General, in Boston to receive award, says peace-keeping, development and democratization are three great tasks and priorities of United Nations.

+ Co-Chairmen of Yugoslav Conference meet with five Permanent Members of Security Council; Bosnian peace talks scheduled to resume later this week.

+ In Geneva, Director-General of United Nations Office tells Ambassador of Republic of Korea of his concern over growing tension in Korean Peninsula; urges maximum restraint by all parties involved.

+ Commission on Status of Women to begin thirty-seventh session in Vienna tomorrow; to consider draft declaration on violence against women, among other things.

+ United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia blames National Alliance for a Democratic Kampuchea for last Wednesday's "massacre" of 35 people near Siem Reap, according to UNTAC spokesman.

+ Preparatory Committee for Fiftieth Anniversary of United Nations decides to draft solemn declaration to mark occasion in 1995.

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For information media--not an official record

The United Nations today confirmed reports that aircraft has been used to bomb targets in Bosnia and Herzegovina, for the first time since the Security Council instituted the "no fly-zone" over that country under resolution 781 last October. The United Nations has not been able to determine to whom the aircraft belonged.

According to a press release issued by the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Zagreb today, three aircraft dropped bombs on the villages of Gladovici and Osatica, east of Srebrenica, on 13 March, before leaving in the direction of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). Since early November last year, the United Nations has observed 465 violations of the "no fly-zone" over Bosnia and Herzegovina, but not until now has it been able to conclude that the violations involved bombing or other attacks on ground targets.

The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Haiti, Dante Caputo, will begin an open-ended visit to Haiti this weekend, during which he will be travelling outside Port-au-Prince, a United Nations spokesman said today.

For the past few weeks, Mr. Caputo has held political consultations concerning the deployment of the joint United Nations/Organization of American States (OAS) Mission in Haiti, which began about two weeks ago. He has also met with Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and with senior officials of certain United Nations Member States known as "Friends of the Secretary-General".

Meanwhile, the head of the United Nations component of the international mission in Haiti, Michael Moller, who is the Deputy Director of the Americas Division in the Department of Political Affairs, told correspondents today that at the present time there are just over a hundred observers on the ground. He said the Mission, which was monitoring the human rights situation in Haiti, would initiate investigations of violations of human rights and confer with local authorities on these matters.

Mr. Moller noted that the Mission had had a "sobering and calming effect" on the local population in areas of its deployment. Tensions had subsided and the presence of armed military had declined since the Mission arrived, he said. So far, most of the observers were from the OAS, while the United Nations was awaiting the final word from the General Assembly. The United Nations and the OAS would share the costs of the operation in Haiti, Mr. Moller said.

* * *

The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Somalia, Admiral Jonathan Howe, will travel to Addis Ababa on Thursday to participate in the Conference on National Reconciliation in Somalia, according to a United Nations spokesman. Admiral Howe is scheduled to reach Mogadishu tomorrow. The Force Commander of the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II),

Lieutenant-General Cevik Bir of Turkey, arrived in the Somali capital yesterday, the spokesman said.

Meanwhile, according to a summary of the continuing Conference in Addis Ababa issued at Headquarters today, representatives of the various Somali political movements, community leaders and non-governmental organizations have presented proposals on the need to create a transitional structure in Somalia and to preserve the country's unity and integrity. The speakers "exhorted" their compatriots to facilitate and make "more secure" the work of the humanitarian relief community.

Some of the representatives also stressed the necessity to restore the "properties" of people who were "forcibly" dispossessed of their land and other assets, the summary said.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in speech delivered in Boston today upon receiving the Christian Herter Award from the Boston World Affairs Council, addressed the "three great tasks and priorities of the United Nations": peace-keeping, development and democratization.

The United Nations had started as many new peace-keeping operations in the past four years as in the previous forty-three years, he noted, adding that the Organization's peace-keeping costs for 1992 exceeded $3 billion, more than three times any previous annual figure.

He went on to say that today's operations were not peace-keeping in the traditional sense, but took place where there was "no peace to keep". United Nations forces today protected relief shipments, provided services for victims, enforced embargoes, removed mines and tried to confiscate arms. In addition, United Nations operations now involved a large civilian dimension, including the monitoring of elections, public safety and information and communication.

With regard to development, Mr. Boutros-Ghali emphasized that without a new and workable concept, the United Nations would face an endless sequence of conflicts like the ones confronting the world now. Development could help prevent conflict from breaking out by engaging people's energies positively, he said.

On democratization, he noted that the real development of a State must be based on the participation of its population, that required human rights and democracy. To ensure such an achievement, democratization must not only take hold inside a State, but among States in the international community, he said.

Development and democratization could not fully succeed where human rights were neglected, he concluded. The United Nations Charter placed the promotion of human rights as one of its principal priority and, in recent years, the Organization had ventured into an entirely new field: "long-term, nationwide monitoring of human rights".

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Press Release DH/1351
16 March 1993

The Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on former Yugoslavia, Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, met this morning with representatives of the five Permanent Members of the Security Council: China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States.

According to Fred Eckhard, spokesman for the Co-Chairmen, the Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, and the Bosnian Croat leader, Mate Boban, would arrive in New York late today. President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia and Herzegovina was expected later this week, he said. Also scheduled to arrive this week was the Foreign Minister of Serbia.

In Geneva, talks concerning the Serb-controlled Krajina were held this morning with Croatian Government authorities. The Krajina Serbs were expected to arrive in Geneva tomorrow afternoon to attend.

* * *

At a meeting in Geneva today, the Director-General of the United Nations Office in Geneva, Vladimir Petrovsky, told the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea, Soo Gil Park, of his concern over the growing tension in the Korean Peninsula and stressed that maximum restraint was needed by all parties involved to settle the problem by dialogue and negotiations.

Mr. Park met with the United Nations Director-General to inform him of his country's position with respect to the decision by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to withdraw from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

Mr. Petrovsky's statement to the South Korean Ambassador was issued at Headquarters as a note to correspondents.

* * *

The Commission on the Status of Women will open its thirty-seventh session in Vienna tomorrow with the consideration of a draft declaration on the elimination of violence against women among the major issues to be considered. It will also consider preparations for the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights and for a fourth World Conference on Women.

The draft declaration on violence against women, which was prepared by an intersessional group of the Commission, affirms that violence impairs or nullifies women's enjoyment of human rights and freedoms; recognizes that such violence is a "manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women" and identifies it as "one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position as compared to men".

Under the priority themes for the current session -- which are intended to contribute to the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies in the areas of equality, development and peace -- the Commission will consider the

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question of increasing women's awareness of their rights, including measures to promote their legal literacy; the situation of women in extreme poverty and efforts to integrate women's concerns in national development planning; and women in the peace process, including women's role in the military.

Other matters to be discussed by the Commission include women's role in the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse (1991 - 2000); the situation of Palestinian women in the occupied Arab territories and in the refugee camps, and assistance to women and children living under apartheid. Also to be examined will be ongoing efforts to improve the status of women in the Secretariat.

* * *

The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) has blamed the forces of the National Alliance for a Democratic Kampuchea (NADK) for last Wednesday's "massacre" of 35 Vietnamese-speaking fishermen, women and children on Tonle Sap Lake near Siem Reap.

According to the spokesman for UNTAC, Eric Falt, the Civilian Police team, which conducted the investigations, had established the facts about the involvement of the NADK in the killings. The sole motive for the attack appeared to have been to "terrorize and to kill", he said. The findings were based on the statement of eyewitnesses.

The group, armed with AK-47 rifles, machine guns and rocket launchers had entered five different houseboats in the fishing village located just south of the provincial capital of Siem Reap and shot the people living there. Some 24 people were also injured in the attack.

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The Preparatory Committee for the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations, at a meeting held at Headquarters today, decided to establish an open-ended working group to draft a solemn declaration to mark the observance of the occasion in 1995. The working group would hold its first meeting sometime between Easter and the Committee's next meeting on 23 April, the Chairman of the Committee, Richard Butler of Australia, said.

The representative of Mexico, Manuel Tello, said the fiftieth anniversary celebration should include, among its objectives, the responsibilities of individual States to increase public awareness of the United Nations role and to enhance solidarity with the goals of the Organization.

The Committee also discussed augmenting the Secretary-General's proposed theme for the celebration, "We the Peoples", with concepts from the United Nations Charter, including peace, equality, justice and development.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

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WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Secretary-General expresses "concern" at latest clash in Kismayo; urges participants in Conference on National Reconciliation to work together for successful conclusion; over $130 million pledged for United Nations relief and rehabilitation programme in Somalia at Conference on humanitarian assistance to that country.

+ United Nations appeals to international community for $840 million for humanitarian relief assistance to four million people in former Yugoslavia; international conference on that country's needs scheduled for 25 March in Geneva; European Community to contribute $1.2 million to parachuting food aid to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

+ Secretary-General, praising West African diplomatic efforts to solve conflict in Liberia, urges regional organization to seek commitment of parties to Yamoussoukro IV Accords at high-level meeting in mid-April; Security Council to consider the matter later this week.

+ International observer missions in South Africa, in joint statement, call for Day of Peace and Reconciliation; also call for meeting between ANC leader Nelson Mandela and Chief of Inkatha Freedom Party Buthelezi.

+ General Assembly appropriates $140 million for financing Mozambique Operation, $17.2 million for Observer Mission in El Salvador.

+ Co-Chairmen of Yugoslav Conference meet with Bosnian Croat leader; meeting with President of Bosnia and Herzegovina scheduled for tomorrow.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has expressed "concern" at the clash between rival factions in the Somali city of Kismayo, on 16 March, which resulted in some casualties.

In a press release issued tonight at Headquarters, the Secretary-General noted that these "regrettable incidents", which occur at a time when the Conference on National Reconciliation is meeting in Addis Ababa, should not be

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allowed to affect the determination of the parties to work together and to co-operate with one another to ensure a successful conclusion of the Conference. Somalis, representing all sections of the society, had invested considerable effort, energy and good will in making this Conference possible, stressed Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali. Also, he said, the international community had worked hard to support the meeting and was ready to make concrete contributions to the rehabilitation and the reconstruction of Somalia.

In a related development, over $130 million have been pledged by international donors towards the United Nations-sponsored Relief and Rehabilitation Programme in Somalia for 1993. The pledges were made at a three-day Conference on humanitarian Assistance to Somalia that ended in Addis Ababa on 13 March.

In concluding remarks to the Conference, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Jan Eliasson, declared that while he was "painfully aware" of the increasing number of complex emergencies around the globe, the response of donors to the 1993 programme was "very positive".

Moreover, he said, further resources should be forthcoming as the implementation of the various projects picked up pace, more specifically following the planned updates in April and August this year. The United Nations had sought $166.5 million for relief and rehabilitation of Somalia.

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The United Nations has launched a new appeal to the international community for $840 million to cover the relief assistance programme for some four million people in the former Yugoslavia for the rest of the year.

According to a press release issued by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) today, the new appeal is in addition to the nearly $496 million already spent or committed by seven United Nations and associated agencies in ex-Yugoslavia since the beginning of the emergency operation in November 1991. The agency said that, as the lead humanitarian agency in former Yugoslavia, it had called for an International Conference in Geneva on 25 March to discuss the needs of the people in the war-torn region.

The UNHCR noted that there had been a dramatic increase in the number of people needing help in former Yugoslavia over the past few months -- many of whom were victims of the cruel practice of "ethnic cleansing". When the first appeal was launched in December 1991, targeted beneficiaries totaled 500,000; fifteen months and five revised appeals later, that number has increased to 3.8 million, it said.

In a separate development, the European Community announced today that it would contribute some $1.2 million to the parachuting of food aid into Bosnia and Herzegovina by United States airplanes.

According to a press release issued at Headquarters, the delivery of parcels will start as soon as possible from the Rhein-Main Air Force base in

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Frankfurt, under the aegis of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in a joint operation with the Official Development Assistance (ODA) of the United Kingdom.

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The United Nations was "ready to extend whatever assistance" to end the conflict in Liberia, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has said. However, before the Organization got further involved, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) should convene a high-level meeting to seek the commitment of the parties to the Yamoussoukro IV Accord, he stressed.

In a his report to the Security Council, dated 12 March, the Secretary-General indicated that he would send his Special Representative for Liberia, Trevor Gordon-Somers, to the region, to urge ECOWAS to consider the problem of Liberia at its upcoming meeting in mid-April. Mr. Gordon-Somers would represent the United Nations at that meeting. The Secretary-General's Special Representative has already held consultations with the warring factions in Liberia, who have indicated to him their intention to accept the Yamoussoukro Accord "as the most realistic basis on which a durable peace can be constructed".

In his report, Mr. Boutros-Ghali pointed out that Liberia represented a good example of systematic cooperation between the United Nations and a regional organization. From the beginning, he wrote, diplomatic and even military initiatives had been taken by ECOWAS. The comprehensive economic sanctions imposed by ECOWAS were an important part of the efforts to bring about a cessation of hostilities, and the Security Council had supplemented ECOWAS action by imposing an arms embargo last November. The Secretary-General said the United Nations would be willing to extend technical assistance to ECOWAS in monitoring the sanctions.

The three-year crisis in Liberia can be traced to the complete breakdown of law and order and civil authority which followed the overthrow in 1990 of the regime headed by President Samuel Doe. The civil war has caused severe casualties and major displacement of population, both inside the country and across the borders into Sierra Leone and Côte d'Ivoire.

Meanwhile, the Security Council held consultations this morning on the Security Council's report and is expected to convene in a formal meeting later this week on the situation in Liberia.
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The international observer missions in South Africa, in a joint statement issued in Johannesburg yesterday, have called for the celebration of Sunday, 21 March, as the Day of Peace and Reconciliation. This day has traditionally marked the commemoration of the victims who sacrificed their lives and freedom -- at Sharpville and elsewhere -- for a new South Africa.

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The statement also called for the speedy conclusion of preparations for a meeting between the African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela and Chief Buthelezi of the Inkatha Freedom Party which, it said, would contribute towards creating a climate of cooperation, political tolerance and trust.

According to the statement, the observer missions expresssed "grave" concern over the escalation of violence and confrontation between authorities and inhabitants of Bophuthatswana as well as over the detention of two international observers. They urged the South African authorities to repeal the Internal Security Act and to allow all political parties and interest groups to express themselves, especially during the time of transition to a democratic South Africa.

Observer missions of the United Nations, the Commonwealth, European Community and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) were sent to South Africa under Security Council resolution 772 (1992). The statement was contained in a press release issued at Headquarters yesterday by the United Nations Observer Mission in South africa (UNOMSA).

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The General Assembly, at the recommendation of the Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary), yesterday approved the appropriation of $140 million for the financing of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ) from 15 October 1992 to 30 June 1993. It also appropriated $17.2 million for the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL) from 1 December 1992 to 31 May 1993.

The Assembly asked the Secretary-General to submit a report by 1 July on revised and detailed cost estimates for ONUMOZ for its entire mandate period, which ends on 31 October. The appropriation for ONUMOZ also included an earlier commitment authorization of $9.5 million.

The Assembly also authorized the Secretary-General to commit up to $2.9 million per month for ONUSAL, for the period beginning 1 June 1993. The appropriation for ONUSAL included an earlier commitment authorization of some $8 million.

The Assembly also confirmed the Secretary-General's appointment of Kenneth K.S. Dadzie as Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) for a further one-year period, through 31 March 1994.

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The Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on former Yugolavia, Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, met this morning with Mate Boban, the Bosnian Croat leader, according to their spokesman, Fred Eckhard.

This afternoon, they were scheduled to meet with the Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, and with the Serbian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister. President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia and Herzegovina was expected in New York later this afternoon and a meeting with him was planned for tomorrow.

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